

PATENT #4  
0033-0630P  
Rose  
2-12-01

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shuichi WATANABE  
Application No.: 09/451,097 Group: 2722  
Filed: November 30, 1999 Examiner: UNASSIGNED  
For: IMAGE RETRIEVING APPARATUS PERFORMING RETRIEVAL  
BASED ON CODING INFORMATION UTILIZED FOR FEATURED  
FROM EXTRACTION OR FEATURE VALUES OF FRAMES

LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is hereby advised of the following  
co-pending U.S. Application(s):

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group</u>
09/117,501	July 30, 1998	2713

The subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending U.S. application(s) may be  
deemed to relate to the present application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this  
instant application.

The above-listed co-pending application(s) is(are) not to be construed as prior art. By  
bringing the above-listed application(s) to the attention of the Examiner, Applicant(s) do(does) NOT  
waive any confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending application(s) or this application.  
See MPEP § 101. Furthermore, if said application(s) should not mature into patents, such

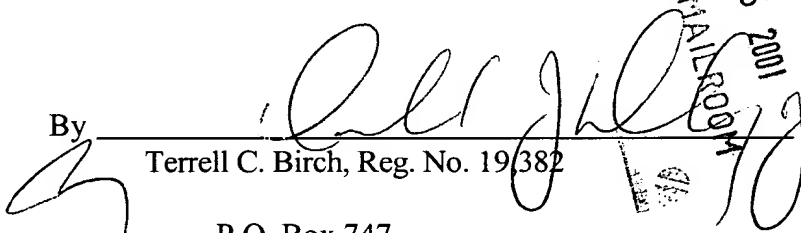
application(s) should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.14.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

  
Terrell C. Birch, Reg. No. 19382

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

TCB/DJD:kna

(Rev. 03/30/99)